

Testimony of Kristi Chambrello-Ramsey
School Counselor, Torrington Middle School
in opposition of
S.B. 1095 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS
Education Committee - March 1, 2023

Representative Currey, Senator McCrory, Representative McCarty, Senator Berthel, Vice Chair Leeper, Vice Chair Winfield and esteemed members of the Education Committee, my name is Kristi Chambrello-Ramsey and I am a School Counselor in Torrington, CT and The CT School Counselor Association. Thank you for the opportunity to offer **testimony in opposition of Senate Bill 1095 - AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS.**

Senate Bill 1095 adds that (ii) that individuals who are school counselors, social workers, psychologists, aides or other staff members and have appropriate training and ongoing supports may be assigned the duties of a school resource officer.

- The role of a School Counselor would be compromised if also taking on a role of School Resource Officer. As we do not have the legal authority to conduct or develop legal documentation necessary in an arrest situation that would include student use of firearms or weapons or physical violence. Our role for collaboration with a School Resource Office is to assist in the educational aspect of how a student can be helped by the School Resource officer. I believe that also, in times of crisis, I have specific duties outlined by our school district for crisis management.
- This bill needs more clarification of what is meant by “assigned the duties of a school resource officer”

I would ask that you modify this bill. School counselors should not be doing the work of the School Resource Officer as it is in direct conflict with the work and role of the school counselor.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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